

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/19/2008 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see pages 8-20 of applicant's remarks, filed 12/18/2007, with respect to claims 1-4, 6-16 and 18-26 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-4, 6-16 and 18-26 has been withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gregory Sebald on 3/18/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

- In claim 23, on line 1, between the words "The" and "of claim 22", replace the word "method" with -- computer readable medium --.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-4, 6-16 and 18-26 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
6. Regarding independent claims 1 and 13, the prior art of reference fails to teach, either individually or in combination, "computing a number of equidistant horizontal and vertical splits to apply to the initial region as a function of the distance of the input device to the initial position, wherein segmentation of the region is computed by equally sectioning the region into rows and/or columns by dividing in both x and y directions the distance from the current pointer position to the position of the pointer as it was when the user entered the segmenting mode with a constant scaling factor applied to the distance and using the result to determine the number of equal sized horizontal and vertical splits."
7. Claims 2-4, 6-12 and 25, are dependent on claim 1. Therefore the examiner provides the same reason as stated above.
8. Claims 14-16, 18-24 and 26, are dependent on claim 13. Therefore the examiner provides the same reason as stated above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

9. It should be further noted that applicant has not provided definition of the terminology "computer readable medium". In view of the invention, it appears that the context the terminology "computer readable medium" was used in the claim would fairly suggest to one of ordinary skill only appropriate manufactures within the meaning of 35 USC 101 in the context of computer-related inventions.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JWALANT AMIN whose telephone number is (571)272-2455. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Zimmerman can be reached on 571-272-7653. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2628

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/J. A./

Examiner, Art Unit 2628

/Mark K Zimmerman/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2628